

Dec. 10, 2010

This Week:

- Community Meetings Update
- House and Senate Transportation Committee Meetings
- Mukilteo Ferry Terminal Multimodal Project Tribal Coordination Meeting
- Red Cross Honors Kingston D Watch
- WSF Reduces Emissions
- AFECT Holiday Cruise

Community Meetings Update

I spoke to forty members of the Jefferson County Chamber on Monday in Port Townsend and met with over 200 Vashon Island community members on Thursday this week. A primary focus of all the community meetings has been the lack of sustainable funding for the ferry system and the fact that WSF does not have funding to keep up the current level of service. I answered questions about this topic and others that I presented on, including the new vessel program and the Passenger Vessel Association report. Next week, I will be at Whidbey Island, the San Juan Islands, and Bremerton. For more information on the community meetings, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/Ferries/commuterupdates/pub_meetings.htm

House and Senate Transportation Committee Meetings

On Monday, Deputy Chief George Capacci presented to the Senate Transportation Committee on the Kwa-di Tabil Class Ferries. On Thursday, I joined Captain Capacci in a presentation to the House Transportation Committee on both the Kwa-di Tabil Class Ferries and the design progress for the 144-car ferry. For more information on the new vessel program, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/ferries/64carferries. For newly posted photos of the Salish construction progress, visit www.flickr.com/photos/wsdot/sets/72157623767660087/.

Mukilteo Ferry Terminal Multimodal Project Tribal Coordination Meeting

Earlier today, I attended a meeting in Mukilteo with many of the tribes that are signatories to the Point Elliot Treaty. We reviewed various concepts and alternatives for the Mukilteo Ferry Terminal Multimodal Project and listened to the concerns and desires of the tribes with respect to the project. It was a very productive discussion.

Red Cross Honors Kingston D Watch

You may recall that I reported on a rescue of two divers by the Kingston D watch in a weekly e-mail in April of this year. The crew was honored this week by the Red Cross for their life saving efforts. Senior Port Captain Kelly Mitchell attended a Real Heroes Breakfast on Thursday held by the Red Cross and received this recognition on behalf of WSF. My heartfelt appreciation for the example set by the Kingston D Watch.

WSF Reduces Emissions

In a proactive effort to reduce emissions, WSF actively solicited and received federal grant money for the WSF Engine Retrofit Program. The Spokane has recently come out of layup where it was a recipient of this program. We are happy to report that the engine retrofit emissions kits that were installed on the Spokane have been a great success. The vessel has seen a significant reduction in lube oil consumption (approximately a 62 percent reduction from this time last year) as well as a significant visible reduction in particulate matter.

AFECT Holiday Cruise

The Active Ferry Employees Charitable Trust (AFECT) sponsors an annual Holiday Cruise for people with disabilities. On Saturday, Dec. 11, WSF employees and volunteers will welcome hundreds of people with special needs for a 90-minute cruise around Elliot Bay aboard the Walla Walla. I want to thank WSF employees who are volunteering their time as well as the participating organizations for making this a memorable event for attendees. For photos of last year's AFECT cruise, visit www.flickr.com/photos/wsdot/sets/72157625445819961.

Next Week:

- Whidbey Island Community Meeting (Dec. 13)
- San Juan Islands Community Meeting (Dec. 14)
- Washington State Transportation Commission (Dec. 15)
- Bremerton Community Meeting (Dec. 16)

David Moseley's weekly reports are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

To unsubscribe, reply to this message with "unsubscribe" in the subject of the e-mail.